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Lawrence Wasicek

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VI X

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3734

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/24/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The reply filed on 3/5/2008 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): There is still no support for *the connector* as the applicant remarks referred to page 17, lines 17-23 and fig. 3. The examiner would ask the applicant as to the location in the specification submitted on 7/10/2003 as recited in claim 7, for example, the disclosure does not describe *a connector* blends the first flexibility with the second flexibility. And yet only on page, 17, lines 17-23 of the application *does mention by overlapping tapered end 64/66 the differing flexibilities...* However, it does not disclose that *this connector* blends the first flexibility with the second flexibility. It is suggested that the term “the connector” as recited in claim 7 should be replaced with “the tapered overlapping portion ends” See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment.

EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

/Kevin T. Truong/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3734

VN

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